



**Connecticut Conference  
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105-6004

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 915:  
An Act Concerning The Treatment of Assets in Medicaid Eligibility Determinations  
Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate  
Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ  
March 9, 2015**

Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 915: An Act Concerning the Treatment of Assets in Medicaid Eligibility.

I am writing on behalf of the 240 congregations and more than 73,000 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 2007, the assembled delegates and ministers of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on a Resolution which calls upon the Connecticut Conference to explore, collaborate and cooperate in every way possible with the many and various interfaith efforts in Connecticut to persuade Connecticut legislators to pass legislation to ensure that quality, effective and affordable health care is available to all the residents of Connecticut.

Under current law, if a Medicaid applicant's assets exceed \$1,600, the asset causing the resident to go over the limit is considered a "disqualifying asset" and the applicant is not eligible for Medicaid during the month in which the resident possessed the disqualifying asset. Sometimes a single disqualifying asset is not discovered right away or cannot be easily liquidated, which renders the Medicaid applicant ineligible for several months. This is not right or moral. There should not be uncompensated care just because a Medicaid patient may have a \$2,000 asset — such as a small life insurance policy — that is difficult to liquidate.<sup>1</sup>

This proposed legislation inserts common sense rules into the eligibility process so that a person would not be disqualified based solely on a single, unliquidated asset that is inaccessible to the individual. It also would create common sense procedures for liquidating newly discovered assets found after the date of application.<sup>2</sup>

All of God's people deserve access to quality, affordable health care. The Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ supports Senate Bill 915: An Act Concerning the Treatment of Assets in Medicaid Eligibility Determinations, which if enacted would provide relief to Medicaid applicants who are unable to immediately liquidate assets and remain within eligibility guidelines.

---

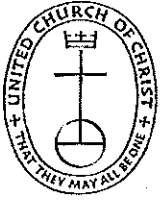
<sup>1</sup> Leading Age Connecticut

<sup>2</sup> Leading Age Connecticut



**God is still speaking,**

860.233.5564 toll free) 866.367.2822 fax) 860.231.8111 [www.ctucc.org](http://www.ctucc.org)



**Connecticut Conference  
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105-6004

Thank you for your work and for the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of Senate Bill 915.

Blessings,  
Michele Mudrick  
(860) 796-3822  
Michelem@ctuucc.org



**God is still speaking,**

860.233.5564 toll free) 866.367.2822 fax) 860.231.8111 [www.ctuucc.org](http://www.ctuucc.org).